

We claim:

1. An adjustable bed carriage for supporting a main bed frame above a substantially planar floor, the adjustable bed carriage having:
 - at least one first leg having an upper end slidably attached to a first end of the main bed frame;
 - at least one second leg having an upper end pivotably attached to a second end of the main bed frame; and
 - each of said at least one first leg and said at least one second leg being pivotably connected to each other at a central pivot located substantially at a midpoint of each, to permit pivoting movement of each of said at least one first leg and said at least one second leg about the central pivot in opposite directions to move the adjustable bed carriage between an extended condition and a retracted condition.
2. An adjustable bed carriage according to claim 1 in which pivoting movement of said at least one second leg results in corresponding pivoting movement of said at least one first leg and movement of the upper end of said at least one first leg relative to the main bed frame to move the main bed frame relative to the plane of the floor between a fully raised position, in which the adjustable bed carriage is in the extended condition, and a fully lowered position, in which the adjustable bed carriage is in the retracted condition.
3. An adjustable bed carriage according to claim 1 in which said at least one first leg includes a first leg base mounted on a lower end of said at least one first leg for engaging the floor, and said at least one second leg includes a second leg base mounted on a lower end of said at least one second leg for engaging the floor.

4. An adjustable bed carriage according to claim 3 in which the first leg base includes at least one caster and the second leg base includes at least one wheel.
5. An adjustable bed carriage according to claim 3 in which the first leg base and the second leg base each include at least one caster.
6. An adjustable bed carriage according to claim 3 in which the first leg base includes at least one wheel and the second leg base includes at least one caster.
7. An adjustable bed carriage according to claim 3 in which the first leg base includes at least one foot element and the second leg base includes at least one wheel.
8. An adjustable bed carriage according to claim 3 in which the first leg base includes at least one wheel and the second leg base includes at least one foot element.
9. An adjustable bed for use on a substantially planar floor, the adjustable bed including:
 - a main bed frame having a first end and a second end;
 - an adjustable bed carriage for supporting the main bed frame, the adjustable bed carriage having:
 - at least one first leg having an upper end slidably attached to the first end of the main bed frame;
 - at least one second leg having an upper end pivotably attached to the second end of the main bed frame; and
 - each of said at least one first leg and said at least one second leg being pivotably connected to each other at a central pivot located substantially at a midpoint of each said

leg, to permit pivoting movement of each of said at least one first leg and at least one second leg about the central pivot in opposite directions to move the adjustable bed carriage between an extended condition and a retracted condition, moving the main bed frame relative to the plane of the floor.

10. An adjustable bed according to claim 9 in which pivoting movement of said at least one second leg results in corresponding pivoting movement of said at least one first leg and movement of the upper end of said at least one first leg relative to the main bed frame to move the main bed frame relative to the plane of the floor, between a fully raised position, in which the adjustable bed carriage is in the extended condition, and a fully lowered position, in which the adjustable bed carriage is in the retracted position.
11. An adjustable bed according to claim 9 in which said at least one first leg includes a first leg base mounted on a lower end of said at least one first leg for engaging the floor, and said at least one second leg includes a second leg base mounted on a lower end of said at least one second leg for engaging the floor.
12. An adjustable bed according to claim 11 in which the first leg base includes at least one foot element and the second leg base includes at least one wheel.
13. An adjustable bed according to claim 9 additionally including at least one caster mounted on the main bed frame, said at least one caster being engageable with the floor when the main bed frame is in the fully lowered position.

14. An adjustable bed according to claim 9 additionally including at least one motor mounted on the main bed frame and coupled to the adjustable bed carriage, for acting upon the adjustable bed carriage to move the adjustable bed carriage between the extended condition and the retracted condition.
15. An adjustable bed according to claim 14 in which the adjustable bed carriage is positionable between the extended condition and the retracted condition.
16. An adjustable bed according to claim 9 additionally including at least one motor mounted on the main bed frame and coupled to said at least one second leg, said at least one motor being adapted to push the lower end of said at least one second leg away from the main bed frame and to pull the lower end of said at least one second leg toward the main bed frame.
17. An adjustable bed according to claim 9 additionally including at least one motor mounted on the main bed frame and coupled to said at least one first leg, said at least one motor being adapted to push the lower end of said at least one first leg away from the main bed frame and to pull the lower end of said at least one first leg toward the main bed frame.
18. A linkage assembly for supporting a main bed frame above a substantially planar floor, the linkage assembly having:
 - at least one first leg having an upper end slidably attached to a first end of the main bed frame;
 - at least one second leg having an upper end pivotably attached to the main bed frame;
 - each of said at least one first leg and said at least one second leg being pivotably connected to each other at a central pivot located substantially at a midpoint of said at least one first leg, to permit

pivoting movement of said at least one first leg and corresponding movement of said at least one second leg, to move the linkage assembly between an extended condition, in which the main bed frame is in a fully raised position, and a retracted condition, in which the main bed frame is in a fully lowered position;

said at least one first leg including at least one caster base positioned distal to the first end of the main bed frame, said at least one caster base including at least one caster for engaging the floor; said at least one caster base being disposed in a preselected position relative to the plane of the floor when the linkage assembly is in the extended condition;

at least one follower strut having an upper end and a lower end, the lower end being pivotably attached to said at least one caster base; and

the upper end of said at least one follower strut being attached to said at least one second leg at a predetermined pivot point above the central pivot, the predetermined pivot point being selected such that said at least one follower strut maintains said at least one caster base substantially in the preselected position relative to the plane of the floor as the linkage assembly moves between the extended and the retracted conditions.

19. A linkage assembly according to claim 18 in which said at least one second leg includes at least one wheel mounted at a lower end of said at least one second leg disposed distal to the second end of the main frame, for engaging the floor.
20. A linkage assembly according to claim 18 in which said at least one caster base includes at least one locator element to which the lower end of said at least one follower strut is pivotably attached, said at least one locator element being positioned to locate the lower end of the follower strut such

that said at least one caster base is maintained substantially in the preselected position relative to the plane of the floor as the linkage assembly moves between the extended condition and the retracted condition.

21. A linkage assembly according to claim 20 in which the main bed frame defines a footprint periphery beneath the main bed frame and said at least one caster base includes a caster base body portion and at least one mounting bracket adapted to receive said at least one caster, said at least one mounting bracket extending from the caster base body portion to locate said at least one caster such that at least a portion of said at least one caster is positionable proximate to the footprint periphery.
22. An adjustable bed for use on a substantially planar floor, the adjustable bed having:
 - a main frame for supporting a mattress, the main frame having a first end and a second end;
 - a scissor leg assembly for supporting the main frame;
 - a motor mounted on the main frame and attached to the scissor leg assembly, for causing the scissor leg assembly to move between an extended condition, in which the main frame is in a fully raised position, and a retracted condition, in which the main frame is in a fully lowered position;
 - the scissor leg assembly including:
 - a first pair of legs having a proximal end slidably attached to the main frame at the first end and a second pair of legs having a proximal end pivotably attached to the main frame at the second end;
 - the first pair of legs including at least one caster for engaging the floor and positioned in at least one caster base mounted

at a distal end thereof positioned distal to the first end of the main frame;

said at least one caster base being disposed in a preselected position relative to the plane of the floor when the scissor leg assembly is in the extended condition;

the second pair of legs having at least one wheel for engaging the floor and mounted at a distal end thereof positioned distal to the second end of the main frame;

the first and second pairs of legs being pivotably connected to each other at substantially coplanar central pivot points disposed substantially midway between the proximal ends and the distal ends of each said pairs of legs respectively, such that the scissor leg assembly is movable between the extended condition and the retracted condition;

at least one follower strut having an upper end and a lower end, the lower end being pivotably attached to said at least one caster base;

the upper end of said at least one follower strut being pivotably attached to at least one of said legs in said second pair of legs at a predetermined pivot point located between said central pivot point and the proximal end of said second pair of legs; and

said at least one predetermined pivot point being selected such that said at least one follower strut maintains said at least one caster base substantially in the preselected position relative to the plane of the floor as the scissor leg assembly moves between the extended condition and the retracted condition.

23. An adjustable bed according to claim 22 in which said at least one caster base includes:

at least one locator element to which the lower end of said at least one follower strut is pivotably attached, said at least one element being positioned relative to the predetermined pivot point location such that said at least one follower strut maintains said at least one caster base substantially in the preselected position relative to the plane of the floor as the main frame is moved between the fully raised and the fully lowered positions.

24. An adjustable bed according to claim 22 in which the main bed frame defines a footprint periphery beneath the main bed frame and said at least one caster base includes a caster base body portion and at least one mounting bracket adapted to receive said at least one caster, said at least one mounting bracket extending from said caster base body portion to locate said at least one caster such that at least a portion of said at least one caster is positionable proximate to the footprint periphery.

25. An adjustable bed according to claim 22 in which:

said at least one caster includes a caster housing pivotably attached to a caster stem and a caster wheel mounted in the caster housing for rotation about a caster wheel axis;

said at least one caster being operable between an unlocked condition, in which the caster wheel is rotatable about the caster wheel axis and the caster housing is pivotable about the caster stem, and a locked condition, in which a caster lock prevents rotation of the caster wheel and pivoting of the caster housing;

an actuator assembly for actuating the caster lock to the locked condition, the actuator assembly including:

a lock bar for activating the caster lock, the lock bar being movable between an activated position, in which the caster lock is activated, and a deactivated position, in which the caster lock is deactivated;

an actuator positioned on the main bed frame, for engaging the lock bar when the main bed frame is moved downwardly to an engagement position;

the actuator engaging the lock bar and urging the lock bar to the activated position, thereby activating the caster lock, when the main bed frame is moved downwardly to the engagement position.

26. An adjustable bed according to claim 25 in which the actuator assembly additionally includes a release element movable between an inactive position and a release position, the release element being operable to move the lock bar to the deactivated position when the release element is moved to the release position.
27. An adjustable bed according to claim 26 in which the actuator includes a tab adapted for engagement with the lock bar upon movement of the main bed frame downwardly to the engagement position, for activation of the lock bar.
28. An adjustable bed according to claim 26 in which the actuator assembly includes a release mechanism for releasing the tab from engagement with the lock bar for deactivation of the lock bar.
29. An adjustable bed according to claim 22 in which each of said legs in said first pair of legs and said second pair of legs is configured to provide a predetermined clearance between the adjustable bed and the floor when the main bed frame is in the fully lowered position.
30. A lock actuator assembly for activating and deactivating a caster locking mechanism, the lock actuator assembly having:

an activation assembly adapted for activating the caster locking mechanism; and

an actuator, for actuating the activation assembly upon the occurrence of a preselected triggering event, and for de-actuating the activation assembly.

31. A lock actuator assembly for activating and deactivating at least one caster lock in at least one caster, said at least one caster being included in an adjustable bed carriage supporting a main bed frame, the lock actuator assembly having:

an activation assembly adapted for activating said at least one caster lock; and

an actuator, adapted for actuating the activation assembly upon the occurrence of a preselected triggering event, and for de-actuating the activation assembly.

32. A lock actuator assembly according to claim 31 in which:

the activation assembly includes a lock bar for activating said at least one caster lock;

the lock bar being movable between an activated position, in which said at least one caster lock is activated, and a deactivated position, in which said at least one caster lock is deactivated;

the actuator is positioned on the main bed frame, for engaging the lock bar when the main bed frame is moved in a predetermined direction to a predetermined engagement position; and

the actuator urging the lock bar to the activation position upon engagement therewith.

33. A lock actuator assembly according to claim 32 additionally including a release element movable between an inactive position in which the release element does not engage the lock bar, and an active position, in

which the release element urges the actuator out of engagement with the lock bar.